

MOZAMBIQUE & ANGOLA IN THE FRONT LINE AGAINST THE APARTHEID WAR MACHINE

LIVING ON THE FRONT LINE

STOP THE WAR AGAINST ANGOLA & MOZAMBIQUE CAMPAIGN



**PUBLIC MEETING
WITH SPEAKERS**

ARMANDO VICE-MINISTER
OF DEFENCE IN THE

GUEBUZA PEOPLES REPUBLIC
OF MOZAMBIQUE

SWAPO A REPRESENTATIVE
FROM NAMIBIA

GUS JOHN

CHILDCARE
AVAILABLE

**3 PM • 27 JUNE 1981 • MAIN DEBATING HALL
STUDENTS UNION • OXFORD ROAD • MANCHESTER**

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ANTI-APARTHEID LIAISON COMMITTEE CONTACT ADDRESS 40 ERRWOOD ROAD MC 19

LIVING ON THE FRONT-LINE

For many years it was difficult to draw a 'front-line' in Southern Africa. One day it was a valley where Frelimo fighters had ambushed a Portuguese military convoy ... the next day it was snarling police-dogs facing striking workers in Johannesburg. Now the front-line was a police station in Sharpeville ... then it was a napalmed village in Angola ... or millions of gallons of Ian Smith's petrol vanishing in a plume of smoke. It was a prison cell ... or a defiant march of thousands ... a hangman's gallows ... or a SWAPO cadre addressing a village meeting.

Suddenly it changed! Following the victories of Frelimo in Mozambique, the MPAA in Angola, and ZANU and ZAPU in Zimbabwe, the front-line became a line on the map. With its back to the wall, struggling to maintain its hold on Namibia and South Africa, the apartheid state is reacting with a fury and cruelty never seen before. These are the facts:-

- a raid on the capital of Mozambique by the South African army in January 1981 left several South African nationalist exiles dead;
- the price Mozambique paid for supporting the Zimbabwean nationalist movements was massive economic destruction and thousands of civilians dead and wounded;
- in the last three years the cost of South African aggression in Angola has been 1800 dead, 3000 wounded, and material damage worth 7 BILLION U.S. dollars;
- the Reagan administration is trying to repeal the Clark Amendment which may result in direct U.S. military support for UNITA, a rebel Angolan group fighting alongside the South Africans;
- many of the aircraft used by the South Africans in their attacks across the front-line were originally supplied by British companies and are still maintained by these companies;
- tens of thousands of South African troops occupy Namibia while Western companies drain the country dry of its resources.

There are many reasons for these acts of aggression. One is that the South African regime not only sees hostile states developing on its borders ... it also sees the beginnings of an opposing economic system. Socialism is being born in Southern Africa. In the desperate hope of destabilising and retarding this process a war is being waged ... a war which is actively and passively supported by the Western powers, including Britain.

And what of Britain? We also have our front-line running through Bristol and Brixton ... visible at the doors of a Welsh steel mill and in the streets of Belfast ... Our front-line is the dole queue, and the racist attack. Immigrants originally brought to Britain for their cheap labour now find themselves in the ranks of the unemployed as companies close factories here and export their capital to South Africa where it will earn higher profits from cheap, non-unionised labour. The fight against unemployment here is closely linked to the struggle against apartheid.

Show your support for those LIVING ON THE FRONT-LINE ... Come to the meeting.